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United States Patent [19]**Hubbard et al.**

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[34] APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR RAISING A SKIN WHEAL AND ANESTHETIZING SKIN

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[37] ABSTRACT

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The eight of a large I.V. needle makes one shiver with fright due to one's association of an I.V. needle with pain. An apparatus and method for anesthetizing the intended site for I.V. needle insertion is provided to reduce or eliminate the pain. The apparatus (10) comprises a storage chamber (12) containing an anesthetizing agent (22) and coupled to a seat member (14). The seat member (14) further holds a needle (16) in place and pierces the storage chamber (12). Alternate embodiments of the apparatus (10) include a seat member (46,56) which allows the needle (22,48) to penetrate the storage chamber (40,62) just prior to use. The apparatus pierces the skin, injects the anesthetizing agent and induces a skin wheal at the intended site.

[31] Int. Cl. A61M 31/00; A61M 5/24

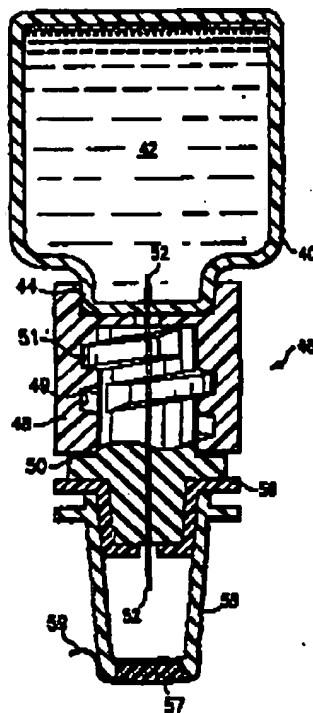
12 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

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[38] Field of Search 604/112, 117, 192, 196, 604/201, 204, 206, 212, 240, 241, 240, 903, 51; 206/363-366, 240

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